



**The Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 17, 2023  
9:30 AM**

*Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength;  
for pardon only, and not for renewal.*

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church. Whoever you are, and wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome here, just as you are, to experience God's transforming love.

St. John's is a compassionate Christian community of healing, hope, and hospitality at the heart of Centreville's Historic District. First consecrated on July 14, 1854, St. John's was partially burned in the Civil War, rebuilt, expanded, and is now home to many faith communities. To learn more about us, talk to one of our clergy, chat up a neighbor, join us after worship for coffee, and visit us at [stjohnscentreville.org](http://stjohnscentreville.org).

Today's service follows the red Episcopal Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and features some new service music. Responses are in bold. Music can be found in the blue hymnals in your pew or on the purple cardstock Service Music in your pew. Participate as the Spirit moves you!

Services are live-streamed, so please be aware that you are being recorded. Cell phone use—texting, pictures, video, social media—is encouraged, but please silence your devices and disable Wi-Fi during worship.

**Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
The Word of God**

**The Prelude**

**The Processional Hymn:** H 473 "Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim"

*Crucifer*

**Penitential Order: Rite Two**

BCP, p. 351

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins. **His mercy endures forever.**

**The Decalogue**

BCP, p. 350

**Confession of Sin**

BCP, p. 352

**The Kyrie**

*Please refer to purple cardstock*

**The Collect of the Day:** *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

BCP, p. 219

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Children's Story**

*Our youngest parishioners are invited to come forward for today's story. They'll adjourn to children's chapel, returning in time for Communion.*

### **The First Lesson:** Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Response:** Psalm 51:1-13, *Miserere mei, Deus*

BCP, p. 656

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \* **in your great compassion blot out my offenses.**

Wash me through and through from my wickedness \* **and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions, \* **and my sin is ever before me.**

Against you only have I sinned \* **and done what is evil in your sight.**

And so you are justified when you speak \* **and upright in your judgment.**

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \* **a sinner from my mother's womb.**

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \* **and will make me understand wisdom secretly.**

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \* **wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

Make me hear of joy and gladness, \* **that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

Hide your face from my sins \* **and blot out all my iniquities.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, \* **and renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from your presence \* **and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again \* **and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

### **The Second Lesson:** Hebrews 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

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### **The Gospel:** John 12:20-33

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **The Sermon:** The Rev. Steve Busch, Deacon

**The Nicene Creed**

BCP, p. 358

**The Prayers of the People, Form VI**

BCP, p. 392

**The Peace**

BCP, p. 360

## **Holy Communion**

### **The Offertory**

*At this time, the gifts of God in bread and wine and the gifts of the people are collected and brought forward in thanksgiving. Thanks to all who have pledged a portion of their time, talent, and treasure to God's mission here at St. John's.*

*As the Spirit moves you, please give generously by cash or check, use the QR code at right to donate online, or text STJOHNSCENTREVILLE" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. Donations of food and other items for Western Fairfax Christian Ministries and the Katharine K. Hanley Family Shelter can be given to the usher or to the church office.*



**The Presentation of Alms & Oblations:** H 380, v. 3 "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C**

BCP, p. 369

**Sanctus**

*Please refer to purple cardstock*

**Great Amen:** *Danish Amen*

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**The Lord's Prayer**

BCP, p. 364

**Fraction Anthem:** *Agnus Dei*

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**Communion Hymn:** H 337 "And now, O Father, mindful of the love"

*Unde et memores*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

BCP, p. 366

**Announcements**

**Blessing**

**Recessional Hymn:** H 441 "In the cross of Christ I glory"

*Rathbun*

**Dismissal**

BCP, p. 366

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Altar Arrangements** are given to the Glory of God.

**Holy Week and Easter.** Invite family and friends to join us in Holy Week and Easter, beginning next Sunday.

- *Palm Sunday*, March 24, 9:30 AM
- *Maundy Thursday*, March 28, 7:30 PM
- *Good Friday*, March 29, Noon & 7:30 PM
- *Easter Sunday*, March 31, 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, followed by our Easter Egg Hunt

**Candy!** Our Easter egg hunt requires candy! Please bring donations of candy to church or to the church office so that our many plastic eggs can be stuffed ahead of time.

**Palm Crosses and Easter Egg Stuffing**, *this Saturday, March 23, 10 AM, Rooms 207/208*. Help us prepare for Holy Week by joining us to make palm crosses for Palm Sunday and stuff the Easter eggs for Easter.

**Firewood!** Firewood has returned! Light up the darkness with firewood from St. John's. Pull up around back, make a suggested donation cashlessly via QR code, and drive away with your bundle of firewood. All proceeds benefit St. John's mission and outreach efforts in Centreville and beyond.

**Coffee Hour.** Please join us in the hall after the service for coffee and refreshments.

**Adult Lectionary Forum.** Grab a snack and join us in the library to discuss today's readings.

**Visit Us!** For more information, visit [stjohnscentreville.org](http://stjohnscentreville.org) and subscribe to our E-notes.

## TODAY'S MINISTERS

Celebrant: The Rev. Kevin Laskowski  
Deacon: The Rev. Steve Busch  
Music Director: Mandy Hull  
Crucifer: Val Tucker

Usher: Durinda Smith  
Lector: Dick Griffith  
Alms Counters: Gene Milunec, Penny Parker  
Altar Guild: Durinda Smith

## ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Kevin Laskowski, Priest-in-Charge, [Priest@StJohnsCentreville.com](mailto:Priest@StJohnsCentreville.com)  
The Rev. Steve Busch, Deacon, [Deacon@StJohnsCentreville.com](mailto:Deacon@StJohnsCentreville.com)  
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The Rev. Jason Lody, Ministry Partners Administrator, [mpadmin@stjohnscentreville.com](mailto:mpadmin@stjohnscentreville.com)  
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday; 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM